

FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE: AN EXCLUSIVE
SNEAK PREVIEW OF

**SONIC
UNIVERSE**
VOLUME 4



Journey to the East



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SEGA

ISSUE **6**

SONIC SUPER SPECIAL



SONIC SUPER SPECIAL

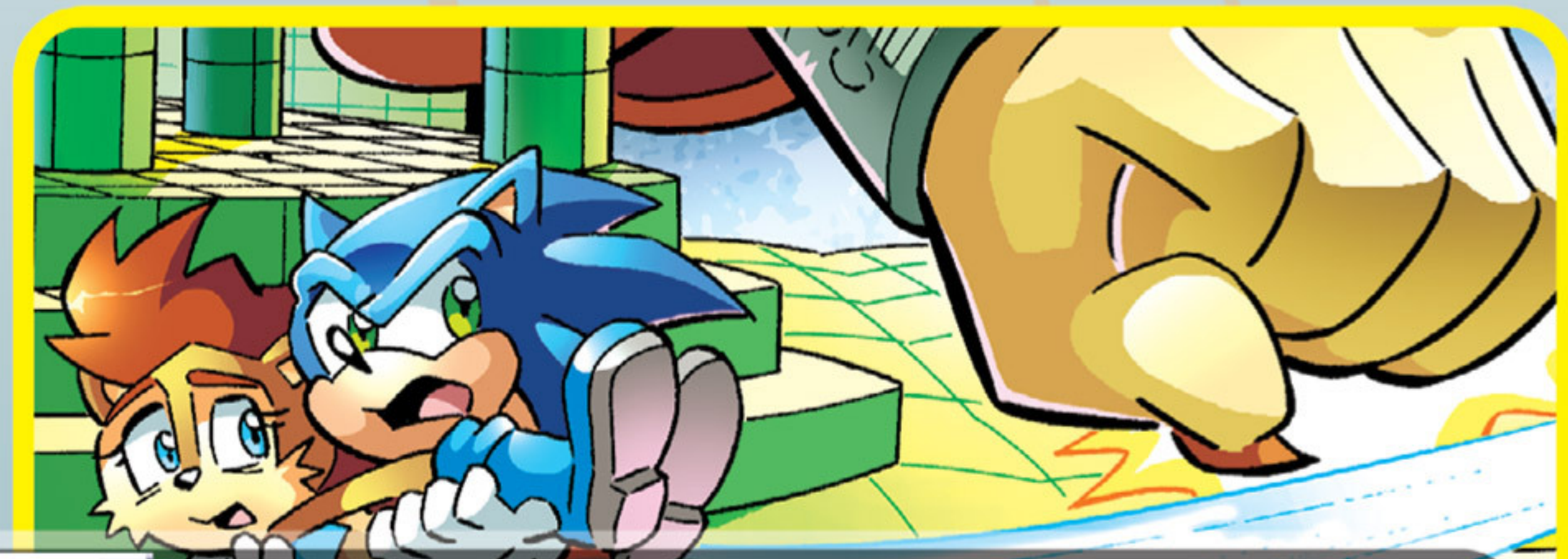
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DEVOTION

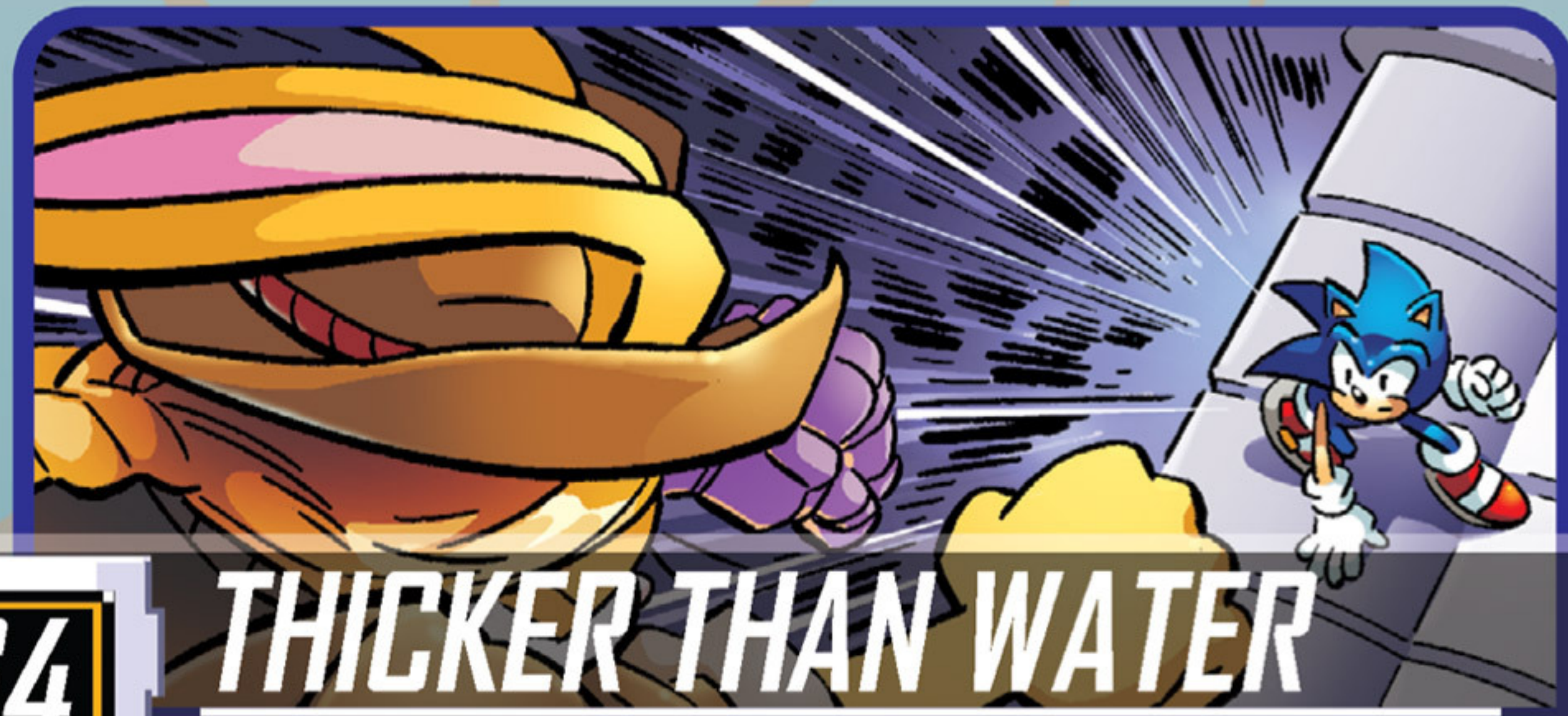
Espio and Nicole dash to investigate a strange flash of light, only to be ambushed by Lightning Lynx! What's Lightning up to and where is the rest of the Destructix?



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IRON DOMINION

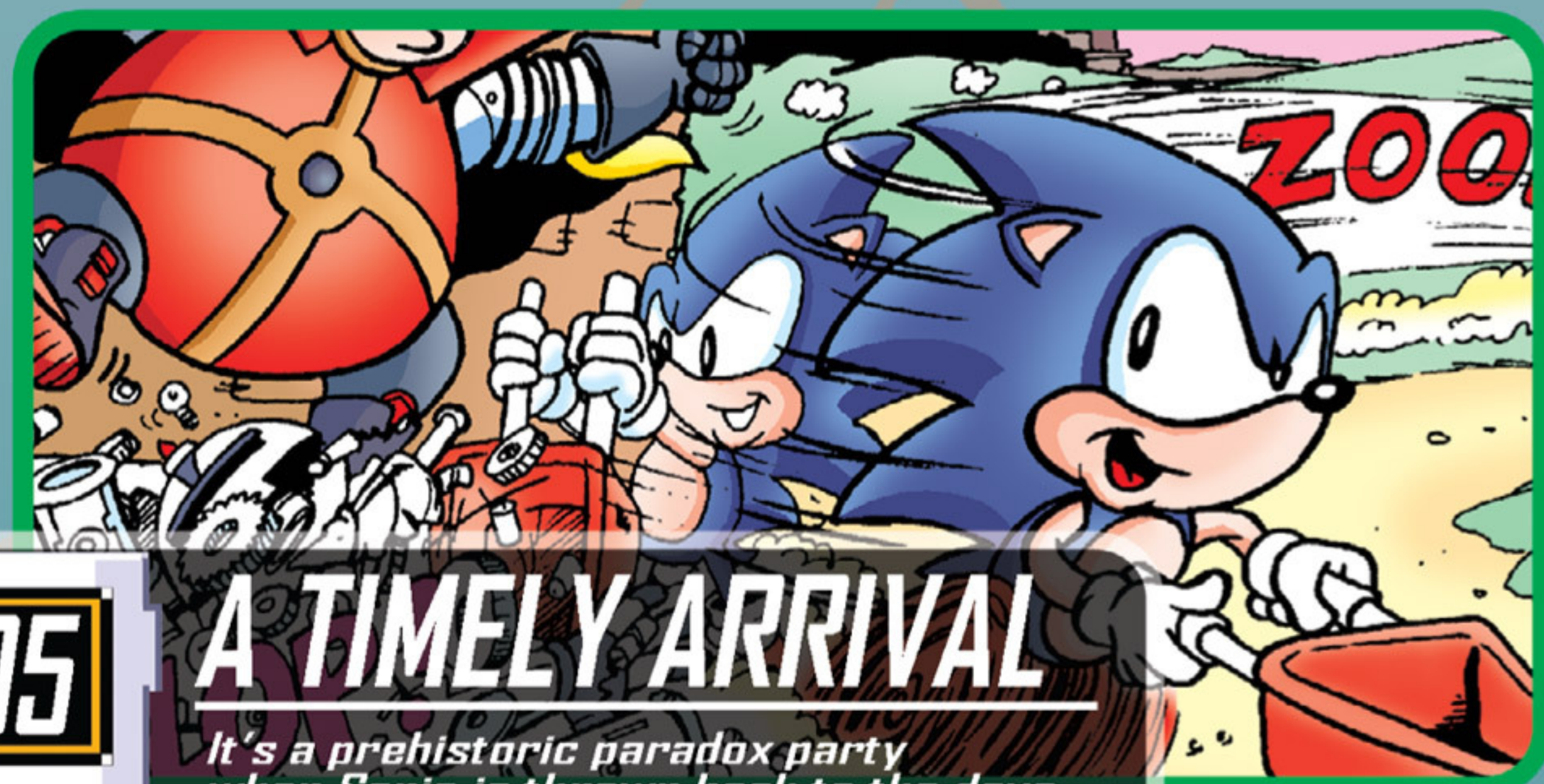
The Iron Queen has taken over Nicole! Can Sonic and Sally save their friend, or will Iron Nicole serve up an all new form of digital destruction?



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THICKER THAN WATER

Sonic and Bunnie are FIGHTING? What could possibly tear these two fellow Freedom Fighters apart?! If you guessed Dr. Eggman--you'd be wrong!?



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A TIMELY ARRIVAL

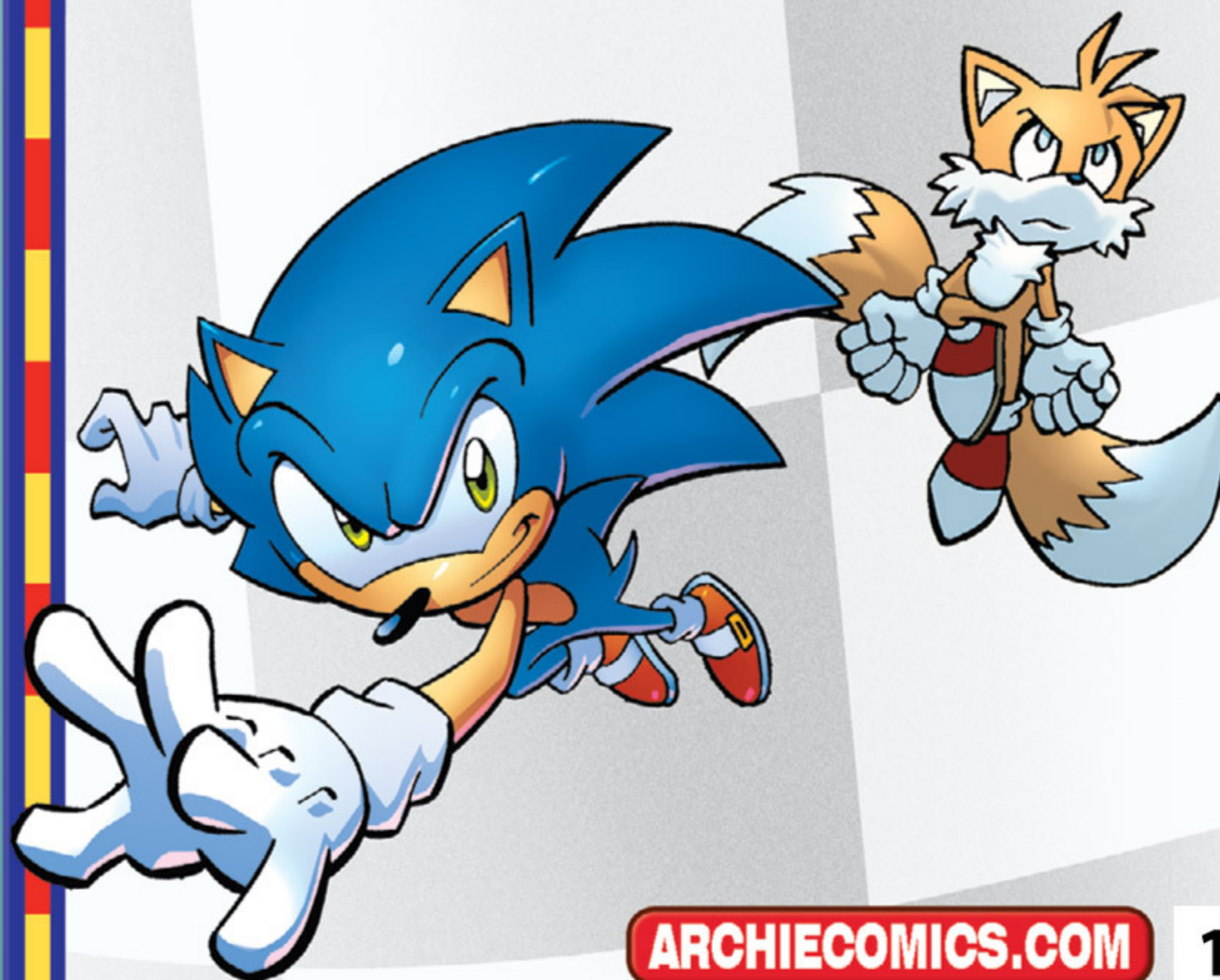
It's a prehistoric paradox party when Sonic is thrown back to the days of the Dinos! Can Sonic escape back to his own time, or will he become extinct?!

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SONIC SUPER SPECIAL

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SONIC SUPER SPECIAL MAGAZINE

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SONIC GRAMS PRESENTS



HEY KIDS!

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LETTERS

Welcome to the SONIC SUPER SPECIAL MAGAZINE! We hope ya'll loved last issue's super awesome pull out posters! We've been getting plenty of letters sent to "SUPER SPECIAL DELIVERY" and we're happy to hear how much you guys and gals are all enjoying it! Make sure to keep writing in and let us know what you're likin', what you're lovin', or what's leaving you in the dust!

Dear 'Super Special Delivery',

Way to go on the Poster Spectacular! I bought two so I could use each and every poster!

I like your thinking! We had a great time putting it together, here's hoping for another special poster issue in the future!

Perhaps a future Spectacular issue could have stickers? I'd love for Scourge and Bunnie to adorn my laptop!

Sincerely,
Curtis R.
sent to sonic@archiecomics.com

Now there's an idea that really sticks! Maybe someday! Thanks for writing in, Curtis!

Dear 'Super Special Delivery',

I'm a big fan of Sonic. My friends got me into it and I really like it. My favorite

characters are Vector, Knuckles, and Espio the Chameleon. Espio is my favorite. Out of all of the Freedom Fighter groups, I really want to know all about Team Chaotix! I love all the work you do, keep doing it!

Love, Miranda B. from South Carolina

Thanks for the letter, Miranda! This is my favorite question! Team Chaotix are a gang of friends who protect Angel Island and the Master Emerald from the forces of evil. However, they have been known to focus their attention on other work, including detective services! For more on Team Chaotix and the entire world of Sonic, check out the Complete Sonic Comic Encyclopedia, available now at a fine bookstore near you and for digital download on the Sonic Comics app! Plugplugplugplug

SUPER SPECIAL DELIVERY

Dear 'Super Special Delivery',
I'll start out with saying that I love Sonic the Hedgehog! I love his personality and everything! All of the characters are awesome but I like one in particular: Tails! Could you mark me down as Tails's #1 fan? He is so cool!

You can be whichever number fan you want, but I think Sonic may be Tails's #1 fan already! He's his best bud after all!

I also have a few questions to ask you.

I'm ready!

Number 1: Is Sonic and Mega Man's "Worlds Collide" issue going to be its own series or will it be in certain separate issues, like Mega Man or Sonic the Hedgehog?

Worlds Collide will span across the three main titles, Sonic the Hedgehog, Sonic Universe, and Mega Man. For more info, flip to page 5 for a complete schedule of all the crossover issues!

Number 2: Is Tails going to have his own comic book series, because Sonic and Knuckles already have theirs?

Tails actually had his own mini-series a while back! Coincidentally, Sonic Select 8 will feature the complete Tails mini-series, and other Tails stories, so be sure to check it out later this year! Also coming soon to graphic novel is Sonic Universe Volume 5, The Tails Adventure! Double the Tails, double the tales, double the double!

And number 3: Are there any comic conventions coming up? I want to get the latest update!

The next big con will be San Diego Comic Con, happening from July 18th to the 21st! Hope to see ya there!

Keep making awesome comics, guys!

Tails's #1 fan,
Trevor H.
from Connecticut

Will do, Trevor!

Dear 'Super Special Delivery',
Will Metal Sonic come back? If he does, will he be good or evil?

From one of your favorite fans,
Noah S.
from Massachusetts

Good question, Noah! You'll be able to find out the exact answers to that in the double-sized Sonic Universe #50, which features an all-new Metal Sonic story, so get hyped!

Dear 'Super Special Delivery',
I have a question that I'd like to ask: Why aren't Sonia and Manic from Sonic Underground in the comics?

Actually, they are! You can see the entire Sonic Underground crew in Sonic Select Volume 4, where Sonic travels to different zones, and one of them just so happens to be the world of Sonic Underground! You can pick up Sonic Select Volume 4 at a fine book store near you or for digital download on the Sonic Comics app! Plugplugplugplug

I am a big Sonic fan. My friends Katie, Kenedy, Alezta play Sonic with me. We each portray a character, I get to play as Sonic himself!

From Billy C.
from Alberta

Cool beans! Do you run at speeds above 700mph? It's not an easy feat! Haha, get it? It's funny because of feet! So long, Billy!

That's all for this edition of SUPER SPECIAL DELIVERY. Keep sending in your letters, we wanna hear from YOU!

See ya next time!

SUPER SHOUT-OUTS

"I saw the preview for SU #50, and Shad VS a Metal Sonic? THAT'S SO COOL!!!"

~P.M.P.

sent to sonic@archiecomics.com

"Espio the Chameleon is the coolest ninja I know."

~ Damon H.

sent to sonic@archiecomics.com

"Keep on juicin'!"

~ Shray B.

sent to sonic@archiecomics.com

"Keep making the world's coolest comic even cooler."

~ Giovanni D.

sent to sonic@archiecomics.com

"Keep up the fight Sonic!"

~ Ash T. from Australia

"This comic book is now what I look forward to every month."

~ Snerd G.

sent to sonic@archiecomics.com

"You guys keep up the excellent work!"

~ Mindy M. from N.S. Canada

"Don't stop being way past cool!"

~ Malik V.

sent to sonic@archiecomics.com



SONIC SUPER SPECIAL

NEWS FLASH

SECRETS FROM "WORLDS COLLIDE": REVEALED!

Sonic the Hedgehog and Mega Man™ – two of the most iconic characters in video game history. They've got dozens of games to their names. They've shown up on the Sega Genesis and other consoles-- but never have they actually met each other.

All of that changes this summer with the beginning of "When Worlds Collide." Starting with Mega Man™ #24, this special event will continue in all three titles – Sonic the Hedgehog, Sonic Universe and Mega Man™! This twelve-part epic will have Sonic and Mega Man™ face their biggest challenges yet – including each other!

Dr. Eggman and Dr. Wily are no strangers to robots, world-conquest, and being defeated by cool, blue heroes. But when teamed-together? Well that's a recipe for big blue destruction! So how are these two evil geniuses FINALLY meeting each other? "I don't want to spoil the surprise," responds writer Ian Flynn, "but I will point out both Sonic and Mega Man™ have to deal with brilliant (if mad) scientists. Dr. Eggman has a history of messing with stuff like ancient gods and Chaos Emeralds. Dr. Wily has tampered with the time stream. Between the two of them, they could cause some shenanigans." There's also the matter of *spoiler alert* a little thing called the "Skull Egg Zone"!

Flynn will have more than just a few shenanigans to deal with, as "Worlds Collide" will span twelve full issues, broken in 4-part acts. (See the right bar for a complete listing of each issue and the order in which to read them in.) Flynn says that, "some of the most fun has been teaming Dr. Eggman with Dr. Wily. They're both very big personalities, and they feed off each other very well. I love telling stories and entertaining people, so getting to write for all these series is a blast. That, and I grew up enjoying



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SIDE A

SIDE B

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It's TWO free comic books in ONE! Just in time for the start of the epic Sonic the Hedgehog and Mega Man™ crossover event, "Worlds Collide," comes a primer issue exclusively for Free Comic Book Day! Witness the journey these two epic heroes from both Sega and Capcom took to finally meet each other – Mega Man™'s journey chronicled on one side, and Sonic the Hedgehog's on the other! This is the must-have primer for the biggest comic book event of 2013 – as video game icons Sonic the Hedgehog and Mega Man™ meet for the very first time anywhere – featuring art from both Sonic and Mega Man™ comic book fame! ■



Sonic and Mega Man™, so it's a double treat for me."

The double treat for fans will be seeing these two icons of video game culture interact -- and while the details of that are, as Ian said, a top secret -- we DID hear Dr. Eggman muttering something about "roboticization," and Dr. Wily whispering about "Robot Masters." Then they giggled together about "Chaos Emeralds." Whatever they're plotting, it can't be good.

So how exactly does the look of these two iconic franchises meld together? "We want to remain as respectful as possible to the Japanese designs, while delivering solid American comic book storytelling," says Sonic and Mega Man™ comic art legend Patrick "SPAZ" Spaziante, "It's a fine line to walk, but Archie has been doing it for quite a while now, with Mega Man™ for the past few years, and with Sonic for twenty years!" Fans have come to know SPAZ as the driving artistic force behind the titanic Sonic: Genesis and Mega Man™: Let the Games Begin story arcs -- and Spaz will be handling the cover art for all twelve parts of the crossover event!

It's a star-studded adventure spanning multiple worlds, with over a dozen heroes, and every Robot Master -- ever! Whether you're a passing fan, only follow the games, or a veteran fan of the comics, you'll love this once in a lifetime crossover event! ■

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SETTING THE STAGE

**PREP FOR
THE CROSSOVER
WITH THE FOLLOWING
LEAD-IN ISSUES!**



WORLDS COLLIDE RELEASE SCHEDULE

APRIL

- MEGA MAN™ #24
- SONIC UNIVERSE #51

MAY

- SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #248
- MEGA MAN™ #25
- SONIC UNIVERSE #52

JUNE

- SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #249
- MEGA MAN™ #26
- SONIC UNIVERSE #53

JULY

- SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #250
- MEGA MAN™ #27
- SONIC UNIVERSE #54

AUGUST

- SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #251

DON'T MISS AN ISSUE!

Get the complete story of "When Worlds Collide" by subscribing to all three titles at this incredible low price! LIMITED TIME ONLY!

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- 1 year subscription to Sonic Universe
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SONIC SUPER SPECIAL

PRESENTS: THE GRAPHIC NOVEL CHECKLIST



SONIC SUPER DIGEST

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Sonic Select: Book 7

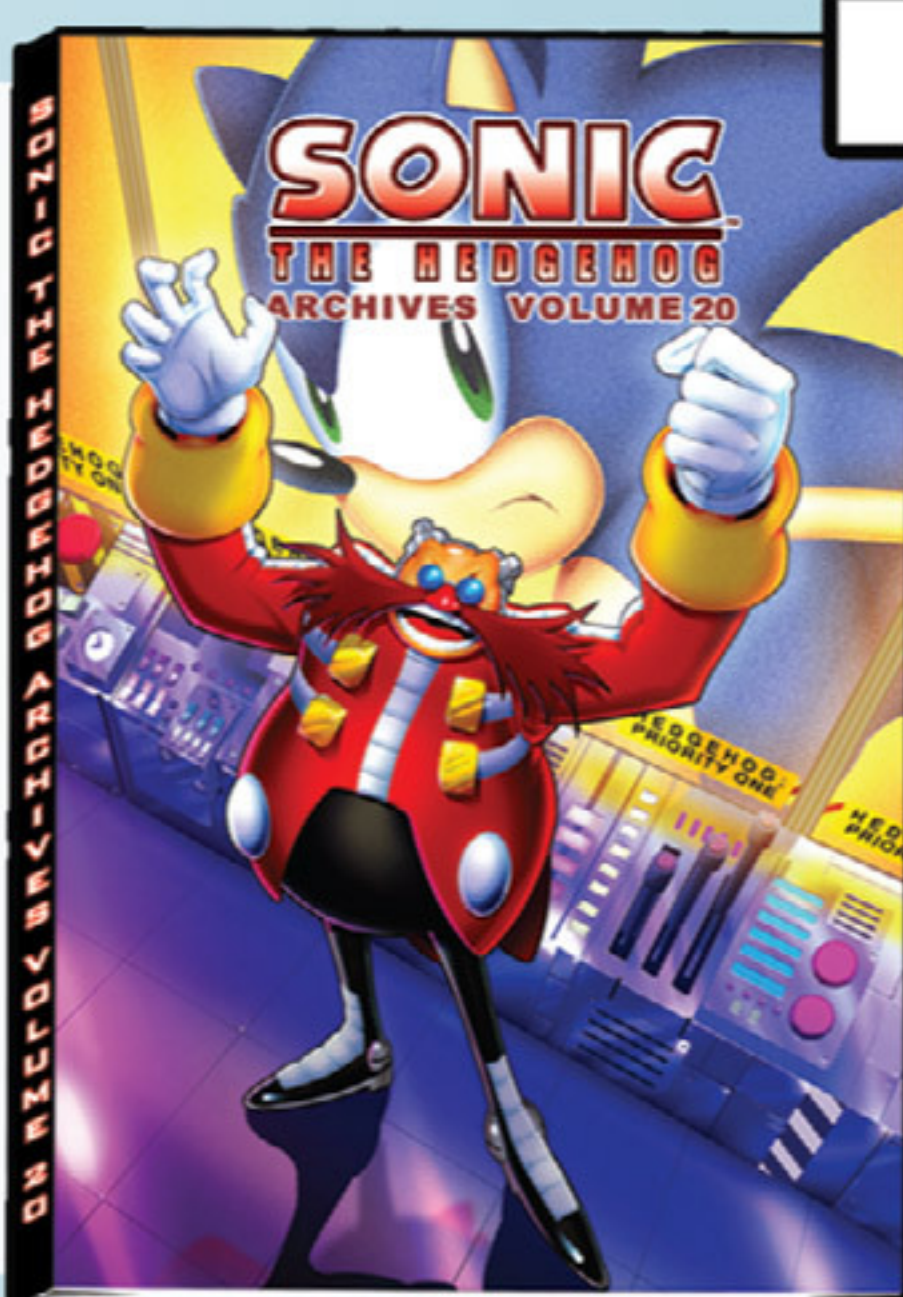
Releases - 2/13/2013 \$11.99 US/\$13.99 CAN

Princess Sally Acorn is the single most famous Sonic character to come from Sonic media OTHER than the games! This volume of Sonic Select collects signature Sally stories, including the entire hard-to-find Princess Sally Mini-Series!

Sonic Archives Volume 20

Releases - 2/27/2013 \$7.99 US/\$8.99 CAN

The bestselling Sonic Archives continues! Mysteries abound in this lead-up to Sonic's third major milestone! This volume features the dramatic return of Sonic's worst enemy! SONIC ARCHIVES VOLUME 20 collects issues #75-78 of the Sonic the Hedgehog comic book.



Sonic Saga Series Vol. 2: Order from Chaos

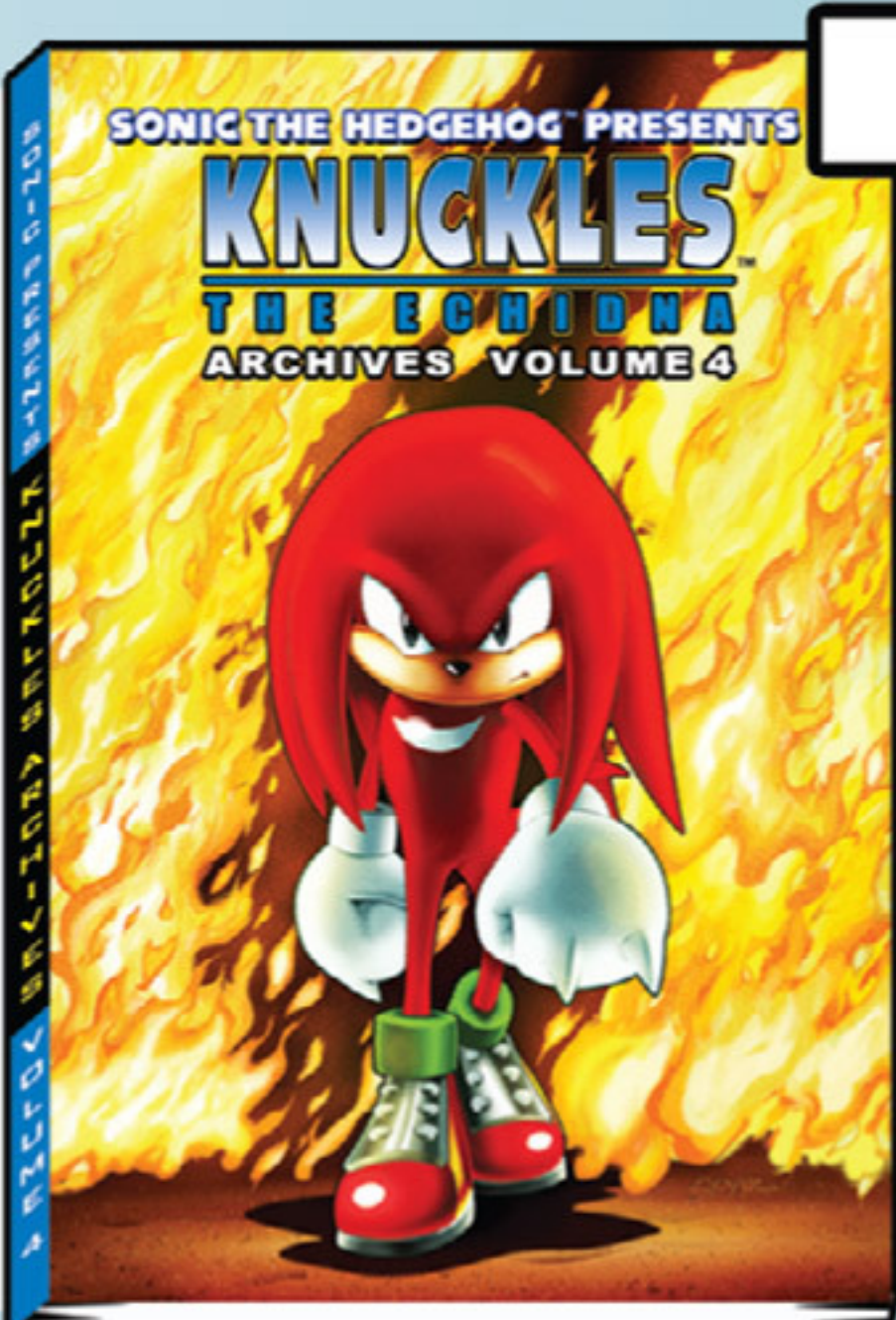
Releases - 3/13/2013 \$11.99 US/\$13.99 CAN

Sonic's epic adventures aren't just stories – they're SAGAS! Blast into the action at Sonic speed with the continuation of the all-new Sonic Saga series! SONIC SAGA VOL. 2 collects selected stories from Sonic the Hedgehog #168-172.

Knuckles Archives Vol. 4

Releases - 4/17/2013 \$9.99 US/\$10.99 CAN

Knuckles, Sonic's original "friendly nemesis" and the last guardian of the Floating Island, is on a quest to uncover the truth of his past! Knuckles Archives Volume 4 collects issues #16-21 of the Knuckles the Echidna comic book.



Sonic Super Digest is Back

-- and with even more classic adventure from the Sonic comic library! This issue hosts a special spotlight on Knuckles and the Chaotix, as secrets from the mysterious Floating Island abound! Perfect for fans new and old, Sonic Super Digest collects tons of comic stories, coloring pages, bonus content, and features an all-new cover by Sonic artist supreme Tracy Yardley! And colors by Matt Herms! ■

SONIC SUPER SPECIAL

REVIEW:

SONIC & ALL STARS RACING TRANSFORMED

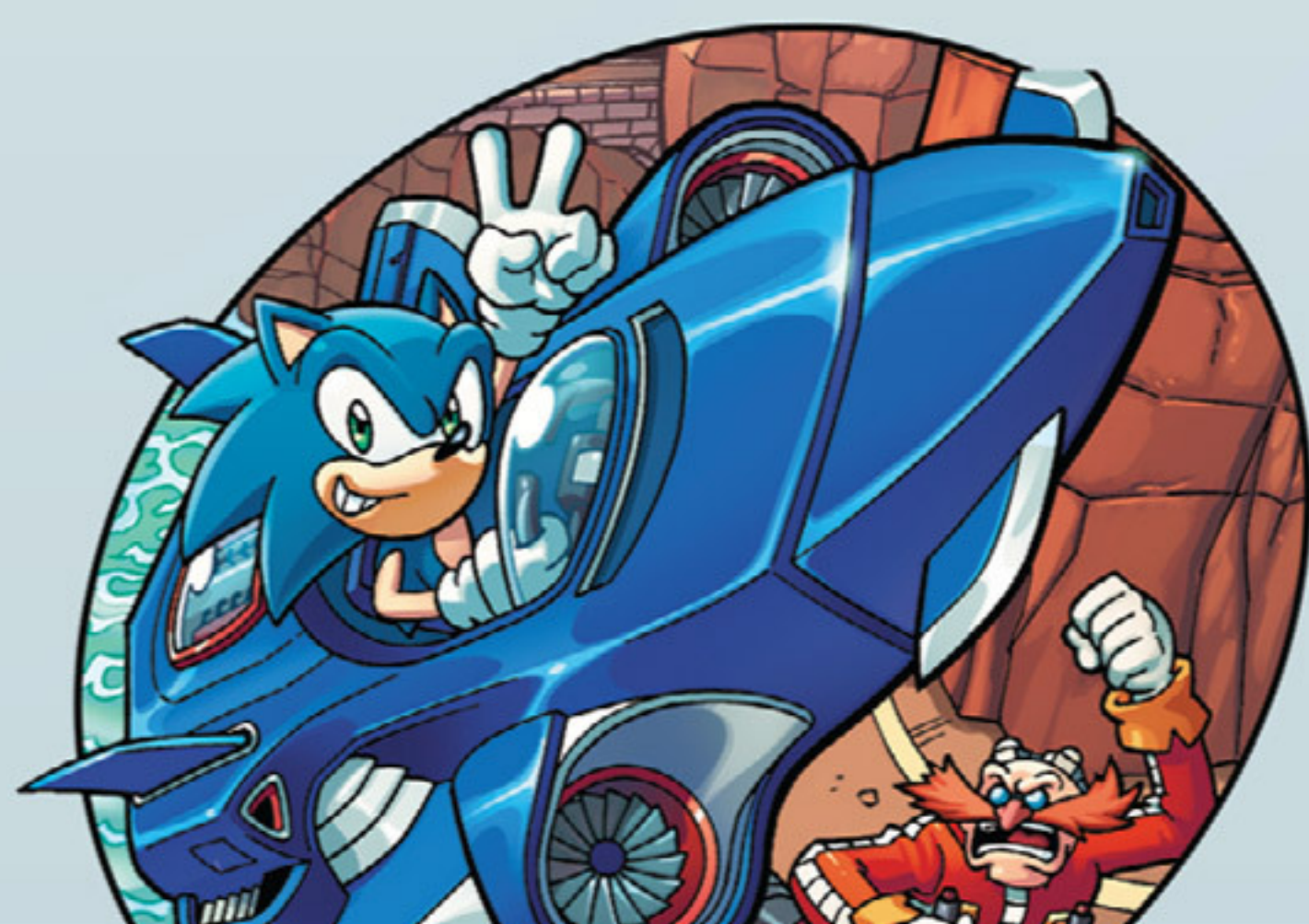
Rev up those engines, because Sonic is back in the fast lane with the best racing game in the series to date!

Sonic and All Stars Racing Transformed is not your average racing game. As the title suggests, this is **racing TRANSFORMED**, so that means that every vehicle in the game has the ability to transform into one of three modes. There's the normal car for land, a boat for the sea, and a jet for the air. Each controls exactly how you'd imagine, but if you want a different feel each time, you can unlock control mods by playing career mode. I personally enjoy the **Genesis mod**, give it a shot!

There's quite a colorful cast of characters and tracks right from the get go, but as you play, you can collect stars to **unlock** even more **secret characters** and **locations**!

The tracks are packed with **alternate pathways**, be sure to search for them because it could cost you the race if you don't know the fastest route, particularly when the game is played on the hardest difficulty. **TIP: Look for the Air Transform sections, the jet paths are faster than any other path!**

All in all, Sonic and All Stars Racing Transformed is a fast-paced, beautifully vibrant, and just plain fun racer that any Sonic or racing game fan would enjoy! -Vincent Lovallo ■



SONIC UNIVERSE #45

PICK UP OUR EXCLUSIVE COMIC ADAPTION OF SONIC AND ALL STARS RACING TRANSFORMED AVAILABLE NOW ON THE SONIC COMICS APP!

HEAVY METAL

METAL SONIC IS TAKING CENTER STAGE IN SONIC UNIVERSE #50!

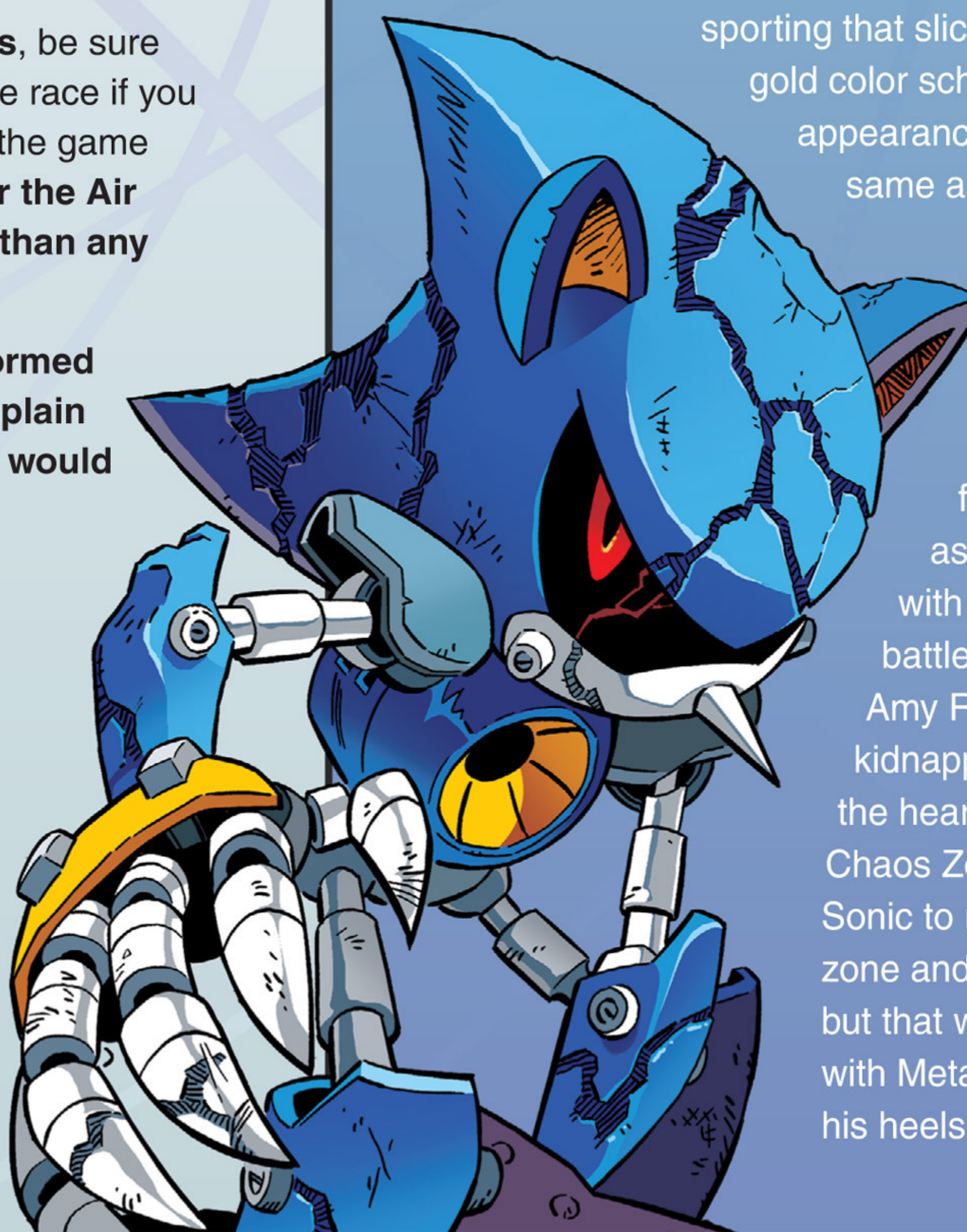
Sonic Universe is about to hit its second milestone issue! For such a big event, we need to have a big story. The sparks will fly as past and present collide— Shard versus Metal Sonic! The original Mecha versus the newest Metal! A robot that gained a soul versus the soulless engine of destruction! Can Shard talk some sense into his metal “brother” and



INCLUDES 48 PAGES AND A FOIL COVER VERSION EXCLUSIVE TO COMIC SHOPS!

turn Metal Sonic away from the Eggman Empire? Or is Metal Sonic truly merciless? Is Shard doomed? And who could get caught in the crossfire? So many questions, and only one way to get the answer! Don't miss the fiftieth issue!

But that's not all! Shard wasn't always sporting that slick black-and-gold color scheme. In his first appearance, he looked the same as the modern Metal Sonic. As part of the celebration, we're including Shard's very first appearance as Metal Sonic with his very first battle against Sonic! Amy Rose has been kidnapped and hidden in the heart of the Collision Chaos Zone. It's up to Sonic to race through the zone and save the day—but that will be hard to do with Metal Sonic hot on his heels! ■



SONIC SUPER SPECIAL™

COMIC FEATURE:

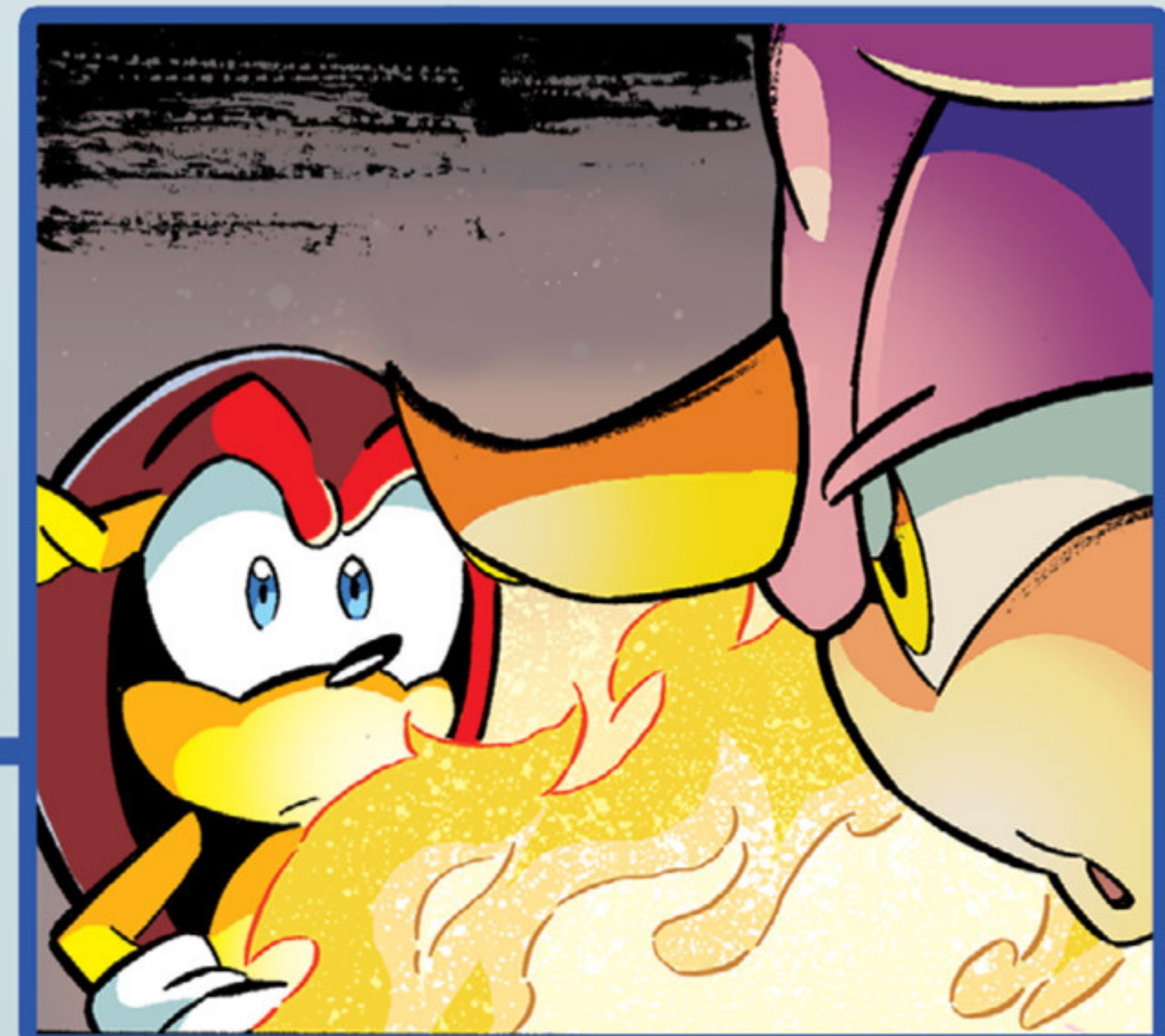
PREVIOUSLY...

AFTER THE FALL OF EGGMAN AND THE EVIL DOCTOR'S DESCENT INTO MADNESS, SONIC AND THE HEROIC FREEDOM FIGHTERS THOUGHT THEY HAD FINALLY VANQUISHED EVIL FOR GOOD. LITTLE DID THEY KNOW, THE **TREACHEROUS SNIVELY**, EGGMAN'S CHIEF LACKEY, HAD BEEN PLOTTING BEHIND THE SCENES WITH A NEW EVIL EMPIRE-- **THE IRON DOMINION!**



LEAD BY THE FEROCIOUS **IRON QUEEN** AND HER HULKING **IRON KING**, THE IRON DOMINION IS POISED TO SWEEP IN AND FILL THE HOLE LEFT BY THE INSANE AND DEBILITATED **DR. EGGMAN**. A SHADOW LOOMS OVER THE CITY OF **NEW MOBOTROPOLIS** AND A STORM IS BREWING THE LIKES OF WHICH THE **FREEDOM FIGHTERS** HAVE NEVER SEEN!

ESPIO THE CHAMELEON, THE PREMIERE NINJA OF THE **CHAOTIX** TEAM OF **FREEDOM FIGHTERS**, HAS A SPECIAL CONNECTION TO THIS IMPENDING DISASTER, AND HE'S ABOUT TO FIND OUT THAT THE PAST HAS COME BACK TO **HAUNT HIM IN A BIG WAY...**



DID YOU KNOW...

The **IRON DOMINION** first appeared in *Sonic the Hedgehog* #60, where Sonic, Tails, and Monkey Khan took on the Iron King and Queen amidst the towering inferno that is **MOUNT STORMTOP** as the duo ventured around the globe in search of Ixis Naugus! The story is chronicled in the *Sonic Archives* Vol. 16 graphic novel! ■

SELECTIONS FROM THE IRON DOMINION SAGA



SONIC PRESENTS SUPER SPECIAL

JOURNEY TO THE EAST FEATURETTE

Coming soon is the newest Sonic Universe graphic novel chronicling the “Journey to the East” arc! It was the first story arc to directly tie into on-going events in Sonic the Hedgehog. If you missed out on the “Iron Dominion Saga,” as a new fan you might feel a bit lost. Never fear! Your latest Super Special has a Super Special Primer for you!

Way back in Sonic Archives Vol. 16, Sonic and Tails were on the hunt for the evil wizard Ixis Naugus. Their quest took them all the way to the far-east Dragon Kingdom. There they found a village under the shadow of Mt. Stormtop – and the mountain on fire! The residents were being menaced by two new villains: the Iron King and Queen.

Jun Kun -- the Iron King -- was an ox warlord, impervious and impossibly strong. Regina Ferrum, the Iron Queen, used her technomancy to control machines and keep the mountain burning. Together they were out to conquer the region for Dr. Eggman.

Sonic and Tails teamed up with Monkey Khan and dethroned the Iron Monarchs. Sonic and Tails went on to deal with Ixis Naugus, and Khan had a few more adventures of his own. It looked like Regina and Jun were gone for good. But evil doesn't give up that easily!

The Dragon Kingdom was divided by six factions. Four of them were powerful ninja clans – or “houses.” Each house was controlled by a “bride” – a powerful female ninja who was “married” to her house and her people. The fifth faction was Dr. Eggman's forces – the Iron Monarchs! As these five factions battled for control of the region, the sixth – the Free People – were caught in the crossfire.

After her defeat at Mt. Stormtop, Regina crafted a new plan. She had one of the Brides assassinated and took control of her house, using her ninja to sew confusion in the region. The remaining Brides were forced



to swear loyalty to Regina, making her the Bride of Four Houses – and now the ruler of the Dragon Kingdom! But the dragon kingdom wasn't enough – she wanted the world!

The Eggman Empire was about to fall. Dr. Eggman had a nervous breakdown, leaving a power vacuum. Snively had begun a long-distant love affair with Regina, and with Eggman incapacitated, invited her to take over. With an army of ninjas backing her up and Eggman's army waiting for her, Regina took over effortlessly. The Iron Dominion's conquest had begun!

Monkey Khan tried to warn Sonic, but he arrived too late to stop the invasion. The Khan that arrived was much humbler than the one Sonic met before. This kinder, gentler Khan caught the eye of Princess Sally, and a royal romance began to bud. As the Freedom Fighters fought to keep the Iron Dominion at bay, however, Khan's dark secret was revealed: being a cyborg, he was prone to Regina's technomancy, and she used him to destroy the Dragon Kingdom's Freedom Fighters.

Sonic and our heroes had the Iron Dominion at a stalemate... That all changed when Regina used her technomancy on Nicole and took control of the city! Only Sonic, Tails, Sally and Khan managed to escape the Iron Dominion's take-over.

Out-numbered and out-gunned, they realized they needed to break the Iron Queen's power base back in the Dragon Kingdom. Without four clans of ninjas to back her up, the battle would become much easier!

Now they're off to the Dragon Kingdom to liberate the Four Houses. Will they succeed? Pick up “Journey to the East” in Sonic Universe vol. 4 and find out! ■



TO FIND OUT MORE READ
SONIC UNIVERSE VOL. 4
JOURNEY TO THE EAST
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SONIC SUPER SPECIAL COMIC FEATURE!

PREVIOUSLY...

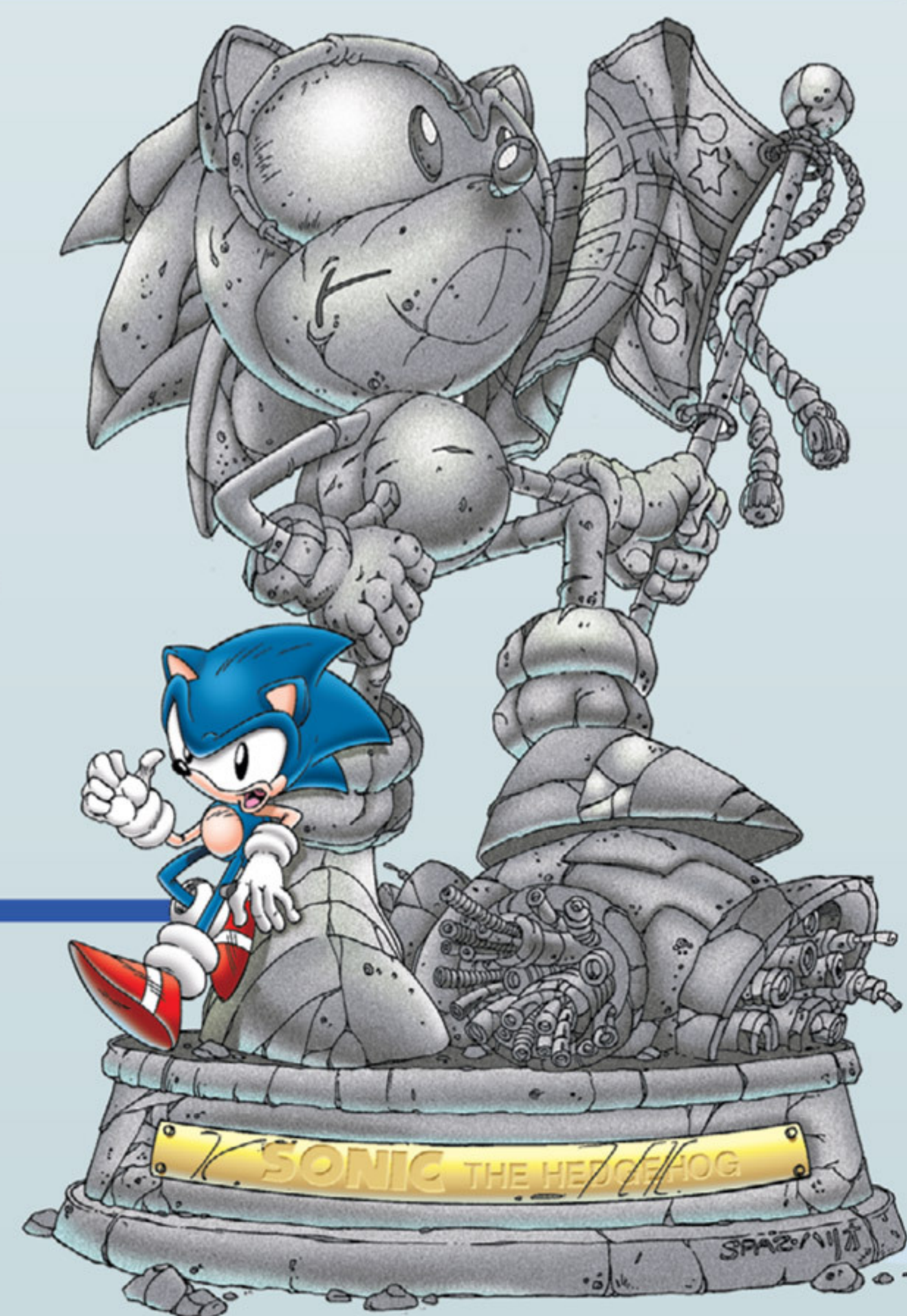
IN THE AFTERMATH OF THE IRON DOMINION'S INVASION, SONIC AND HIS HEROIC FRIENDS HAVE EMBARKED ON SEVERAL ADVENTURES AROUND THE GLOBE, CONDUCTING HIT-AND-RUN ATTACKS ON EGGMAN'S VARIOUS STANDING FORCES.



AFTER A TITANIC BATTLE IN THE NORTHERN TUNDRA WITH EGGMAN'S ORCA ARMY LEAD BY THE EVIL AHKLUT, SONIC AND BUNNIE ARE NOW VENTURING SOUTH TO THE DESERT AND THE DEADLY SAND BLAST CITY.



SAND BLAST CITY IS NO STRANGER TO SONIC THE HEDGEHOG, AS THIS GROUP OF MISGUIDED "FREEDOM FIGHTERS" WENT FROM VIRTUALLY WORSHIPING THE BLUE BLUR, TO TURNING ON AND NEARLY DESTROYING HIM! SONIC AND BUNNIE SHOULD TREAD CAREFULLY...



DID YOU KNOW...

This story marks the full-story pencilling debut of artist Ben Bates! Ben went on to draw tons of Sonic comics, including the landmark post-genesis issues, as well as stints on Mega Man™ and New Crusaders! ■



Yardley + Duskin
+ HERP

WELCOME TO SONIC'S COMIC BOOK ADVENTURES--A WORLD *UNIQUE AND BEYOND* WHAT YOU KNOW FROM THE *SEGA GAMES*--WHERE *SONIC* AND THE HEROIC *FREEDOM FIGHTERS* WORK TO *SAVE THE WORLD* FROM THE *FORCES OF EVIL!*

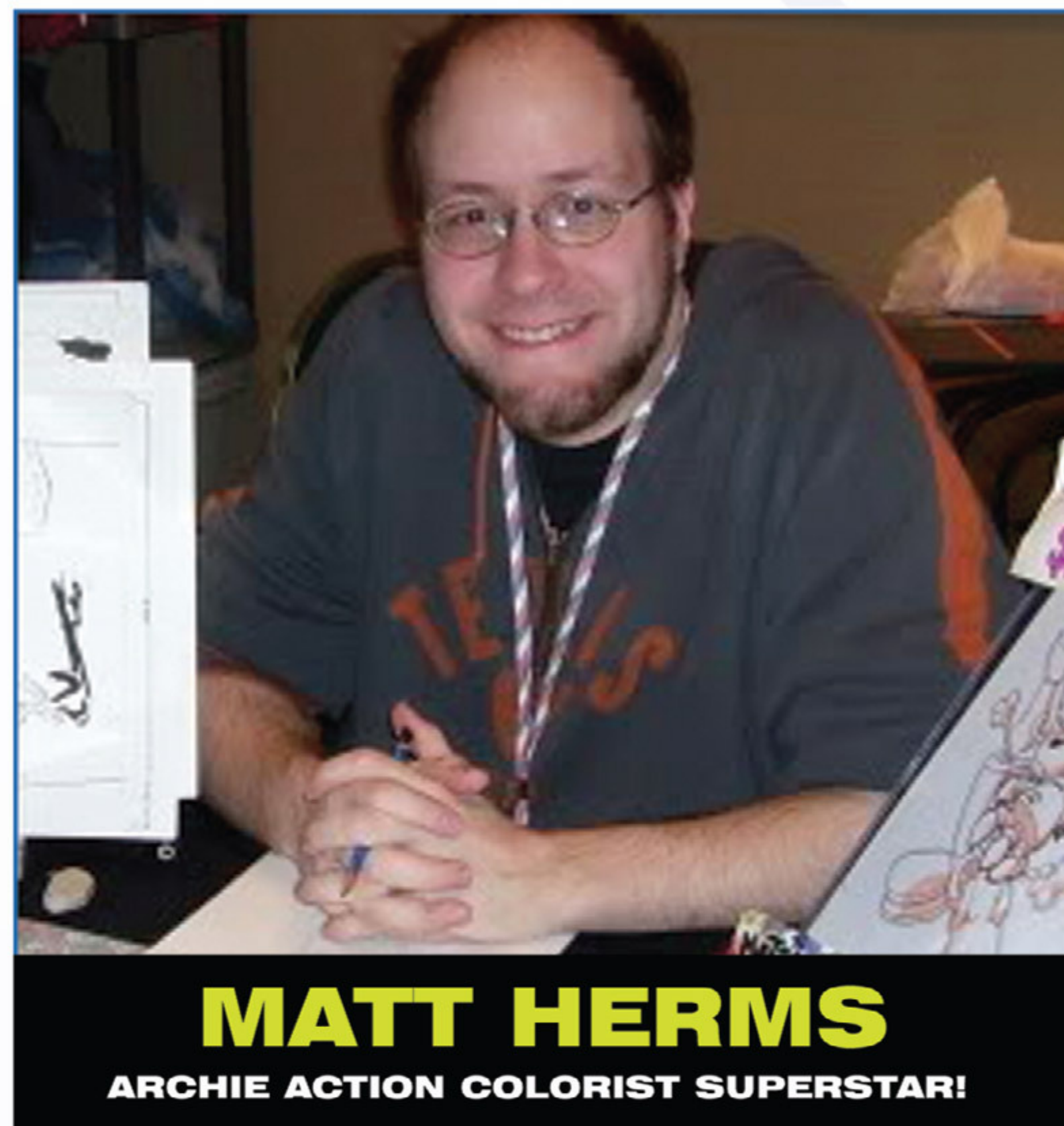


SONIC SUPER SPECIAL

INTERVIEW WITH - MATT HERMS - COLORIST -

SSSM: Matt, you've been instrumental in building the look of the modern Sonic the Hedgehog comic universe, what inspiration to do you draw from as you add color and form to an entire universe?

MH: The games! These characters were born in the 16-Bit era, when video game color exploded onto our TVs like never before. It was bright and fun, at times a little chaotic. I remember Mike Pellerito -- editor on Sonic when I was first hired -- describing Sonic's world as a "bowl full of candy," and that's always stuck with me.



SSSM: What were your favorite Sonic games growing up?

MH: Sonic the Hedgehog 2, for sure. It put a Sega Genesis in my home, and introduced me to Sonic and Tails and their world. Afterwards, I was hooked on Sonic and looking up his adventures in cartoons and the comics!



SSSM: You're now colorist on the entire Archie Video Game comic line, Sonic the Hedgehog, Sonic Universe and Mega Man. What sorts of approaches do you take to break the titles apart from one another?

MH: As a colorist, the most important thing in each book is to play to the style and strengths of the pencilers and inkers I'm working with. These are all very bright and colorful books, and there is usually a theme or locale prominent in each story arc that can inspire my palette choices. It's ultimately a balancing act -- you want every book

SWEET DREAMS

MATT GOT TO COLOR AN ADAPTION OF ONE OF HIS FAVORITE SONIC GAMES IN 2011'S "SONIC GENESIS" STORY. AVAILABLE NOW AT ALL MAJOR BOOK STORES AND FOR DIGITAL DOWNLOAD!



MATT OF ALL TRADES

ASIDE FROM HIS USUAL COLOR WORK ON THE ARCHIE ACTION TITLES, MATT HAS BEEN KNOWN TO PENCIL A FEW ISSUES OF SONIC THE HEDGEHOG. SEE THE AWESOMENESS IN SONIC THE HEDGEHOG #'S 185 - 188 AVAILABLE NOW ON THE SONIC COMICS APP!

to be distinct from each other, but similar enough that they could all cross over... Perhaps in a historic comic book event this Spring/Summer 2013! (Editors aren't the only ones that can make plugs.)

SSSM: You're also an accomplished penciler, can you tell us a little bit about your first Archie Sonic story?

MH: Totally surreal! I grew up reading these books, so it was crazy to think I was now drawing one. It was #185 to 188 -- Mina Mongoose was back! And Mammoth Mogul and a whole slew of villains! I was really nervous to finally be penciling a book, but way past excited that I was contributing to a comic that meant so much to me.



PALLET PUPPET PANIC

THE WORLD OF SONIC COMES ALIVE WITH MATT'S CANDY LAND COLORING EXPERTISE!

SSSM: Any advice to aspiring comic book colorists out there?

MH: Work hard! You're one of the last legs in the marathon of putting together a comic book, so it's important to have a great work ethic and to practice lots -- with Photoshop as well as paint, markers... and pencils! Practicing drawing can help you be a better colorist too! ■